

Claim Amendments:

Please amend claims 1, 8 and 12 as follows. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1 (currently Amended) A system used to perform an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:
a patient support that can support the patient;
a light source that can direct a light beam onto the cornea of the patient; and,
an air flow module that can direct a flow of air above the cornea of the patient from one side of the cornea to another side of the cornea, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air.

Claim 2 (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a portable stand that supports said airflow module.

Claim 3 (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a control console that is coupled to said airflow module.

Claim 4 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said patient support includes a table.

Claim 5 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said light source includes a laser.

Claim 6 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said airflow module creates a laminar flow of air.

Claim 7 (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said airflow module includes an adjustable blade.

Claim 8 (currently Amended) A system used to perform an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:

a patient support that can support the patient;
a laser that can direct a light beam onto the cornea of the patient;
an air flow module that can direct a flow of air above the cornea of the patient from one side of the cornea to another side of the cornea, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air;
a portable stand that supports said air flow module; and,
a control console that is coupled to said airflow module.

Claim 9 (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said patient support includes a table.

Claim 10 (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said airflow module creates a laminar flow of air.

Claim 11 (original) The system of claim 8, wherein said airflow module includes an adjustable blade.

Claim 12 (currently Amended) A method for performing an ophthalmic procedure on a cornea of a patient, comprising:

directing a flow of air above the cornea from one side of the cornea to another side of the cornea, at a distance so that the cornea is not dehydrated by the flow of air;
creating a flap in the cornea;
moving the flap to expose a portion of the cornea;

ablating a portion of the exposed cornea with a laser beam; and,
moving the flap back onto the cornea.

Claim 13 (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising adjusting a
flowrate of the flow of air.

Claim 14 (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising adjusting a
direction of the flow of air.